

NEWS RELEASE

**STATE OF INDIANA
TREASURER OF STATE
RICHARD MOURDOCK**

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**Contact: Jodi Golden
cell: 317-650-3584
jgolden@tos.in.gov**

Treasurer Mourdock Announces Reading Program Scholarship Winners

- Awards \$1,500 CollegeChoice 529 Investment Accounts

State Treasurer Richard Mourdock and Fort Wayne Wizards General Manager Mike Nutter announced three students as the winners of the *2007 Wizards Reading Program & CollegeChoice Scholarship*. The students were each presented a \$500 CollegeChoice 529 Investment Plan account this evening in front of their families, teachers, and baseball fans before the start of the Fort Wayne Wizards baseball game.

For the fifth year, the CollegeChoice Plan has teamed up with the Wizards and their long-standing Reading Program to offer students an extra incentive to read. Students who successfully complete or exceed the Reading Program's goals, or who show extra enthusiasm in participating, may be nominated by their school principal or teacher for a chance to win one of three \$500 CollegeChoice 529 Investment Plan accounts. Students who complete the program are also given free tickets to a Fort Wayne Wizards home game.

"The Wizards Reading Program is an excellent way to promote reading. I am happy to present these winners with the CollegeChoice scholarships," said Mourdock. He added "I am hopeful these kids will continue reading and continue saving for college."

Mourdock serves as the chairman of the Indiana Education Savings Authority, which governs the CollegeChoice 529 Investment Plan. The Plan is a state and federally tax-advantaged program that allows families to invest for future higher education expenses. As an added benefit, the plan waives the sales fee for Indiana residents who invested in the Age-Based Program option without using a financial advisor. The Plan allows you to choose your school, your investment option, your beneficiary and your contribution amount.

For more information about the CollegeChoice 529 Investment Plan you can call 866-400-PLAN or visit www.collegechoiceplan.com. For more information regarding the Fort Wayne Wizards Reading Program call 260-482-6400.

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2007 Wizards Reading Program & CollegeChoice Scholarship Winners

Student Winners:

Natalie Konow – Fort Wayne

Ascension Lutheran School

1st Grade

- Read over 7 times her annual reading goal
- The highest AR point earner based on grade goal in the entire school

Teacher: Tommy Franke

Parents: Mark & Christi Konow

Alex Hammond-Fort Wayne

Oak View Elementary

4th Grade

- Read over 2460 pages during the four week program
- Read over 300 pages in each of the first 3 weeks, final week read 1228 pages
- Highly motivated and driven child
- Great role model for siblings and other students
- Excels in academics and extra curriculars/sports

Principal: Pam Kaylor

Parents: Jim & Jessica Hammond

Dakota Banks – Waterloo, IN

DeKalb Middle School

7th grade

- Between Aug. 06 and April 07 he successfully read 87 books
- Over 4,221,552 words
- Average Comprehension quiz score of 93%

Principal: Kathie Kock

Parents: Jeffrey & Andrea-Elder Banks